Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

Lower Arkansas WS - Cropland/Soil Management

Program:	**Ranking Date:**	**Application Number:**
Ranking Tool: Lower Arkansas WS - Cropland/Soil Management		**Applicant:**
Final Ranking Score:		**Address:**
Planner:		**Telephone:**
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Quality - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
1. a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to animal feeding operations, or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes O or No O
1. b. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a designated impaired water body?	Yes O or No O
1. c. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a water body?	Yes O or No O
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
2. a. Increase groundwater recharge in identified groundwater depletion areas (http://water.usgs.gov/ogw/rasa/html/TOC.html)?	Yes O or No O
2. b. Conserve water from irrigation system improvements and result in estimated water savings of at least 5% and saved water will be available for other beneficial uses?	Yes O or No O
2. c. Conserve water in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	Yes O or No O
Clean Air: Treatment of Air Quality from Agricultural Sources - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
3. a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes O or No O
3. b. Reduce green house gases such as methane, nitrous oxide, and volatile organic compounds (VOC)?	Yes O or No O
3. c. Increase carbon sequestration?	Yes O or No O
High Quality, Productive Soils Erosion Reduction - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
4. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	Yes O or No O
Healthy Plant and Animal Communities Wildlife Habitat Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
5. a. Benefit threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern as identified in a State wildlife plan?	Yes O or No O
5. b. Retain wildlife and plant benefits on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)?	Yes O or No O
High Quality, Productive Soils, Healthy Plant and Animal Communities: Special Environmental Efforts/Initiatives - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
6. a. Eradicate or control noxious or invasive species?	Yes O or No O
6. b. Increase, improve or establish pollinator habitat?	Yes O or No O
6. c. Implement precision agricultural methods?	Yes O or No O
6. d. Properly dispose of animal carcasses?	Yes O or No O
6. e. Implement an Integrated Pest Management plan?	Yes O or No O
Energy Conservation – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
7. a. Reduce energy consumption on the agricultural operation?	Yes O or No O

7. b. Increase on-farm energy efficiency with more efficient equipment?	Yes O or No O
7. c. Assist in implementing energy conservation measures that reduce emissions from GHGs and air pollutants?	Yes O or No O
Business Lines - Conservation Implementation Additional Ranking Considerations - Will the proposed project result in:	
8. a. Implementation of all planned conservation practices within three years of contract obligation?	Yes O or No O
8. b. Improvement of existing conservation practices or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is accepted, or will complete an existing conservation system?	Yes O or No O
Does the applicant meet the following conditions:	
9. a. If the applicant has an existing EQIP contract, has it been, and is it now, on schedule and in full compliance?	Yes O or No O
9. b. Did the applicant successfully complete any past contract(s) in full compliance?	Yes O or No O
9. c. Is this the applicant's first EQIP application?	Yes O or No O

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Will the project reduce the amount of nutrients/pesticides/salt/selenium or other pollutants entering ground or surface waters?	Yes O or No O
2. Will the planned practice(s) promote water conservation on the contracted acres?	Yes O or No O
3. Does the project increase the diversity of desirable plants on grazing lands?	Yes O or No O
4. Does the project improve the health of riparian and/or wetland areas?	Yes O or No O
5. Does the project improve habitat for a wildlife species currently categorized as a State or Federal T&E species, Federal Candidate or Proposed species, or State Species of Concern?	Yes O or No O
6. Will the planned practice(s) reduce irrigation induced or streambank erosion?	Yes O or No O

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Is there a current COMPLETE resource management (RMS) conservation plan in place?	Yes O or No O
2. If application is funded, will this be the applicant's first EQIP contract for this resource issue?	Yes O or No O
SOIL DEGRADATON RISK: Identification of the site specific risk of soil degradation from (a) wind and (b) water erosion (sheet and rill). Points are based on the sum of the USDA-NRCS potential wind erodibility index (CI/T) and potential water erodibility index (RKLS/T). (Answer only one 3a-3e, yes, if applicable)	
3. a. Is the site specific potential erodibility for wind and sheet and rill erosion >0 but <5?	Yes O or No O
3. b. Is the site specific potential erodibility for wind and sheet and rill erosion >5 but =<10?	Yes O or No O
3. c. Is the site specific potential erodibility for wind and sheet and rill erosion >10 but =<15	Yes O or No O
3. d. Is the site specific potential erodibility for wind and sheet and rill erosion >15 but =<20?	Yes O or No O
3. e. Is the site specific potential erodibility for wind and sheet and rill erosion >20?	Yes O or No O
Conservation treatment that will be implemented that results in on-farm reduction in erosion from overland flow (sheet and rill). Points are based on the relative improvement in the erosion reduction from the benchmark and the planned condition.The relative improvement is equal to the difference between the benchmark erosion and planned erosion (positive value) divided by the benchmark erosion on offered acres as documented on CPA-52. (Answer only one 4a-4e, yes, if applicable)	
4. a. Is the reduction in the relative erosion (%) on the offered acres >0 but <15?	Yes O or No O
4. b. Is the reduction in the relative erosion (%) on the offered acres >15 but <=30?	Yes O or No O
4. c. Is the reduction in the relative erosion (%) on the offered acres >30 but <=50?	Yes O or No O
4. d. Is the reduction in the relative erosion (%) on the offered acres >50 but <=75?	Yes O or No O
4. e. Is the reduction in the relative erosion (%) on the offered acres >=75?	Yes O or No O
Conservation treatment that will be implemented that results in on-farm reduction in erosion from wind. Points are based on the relative improvement in the erosion reduction from the benchmark and the planned condition.The relative improvement is equal to the difference between the benchmark erosion and planned	

erosion (positive value) divided by the benchmark erosion on offered acres as documented on CPA-52. (Answer only one 5a-5f, yes, if applicable)	
5. a. Is the reduction in the relative erosion (%) on the offered acres >0 but <=15?	Yes O or No O
5. b. Is the reduction in the relative erosion (%) on the offered acres >15 but <=30?	Yes O or No O
5. c. Is the reduction in the relative erosion (%) on the offered acres >30 but <=60?	Yes O or No O
5. d. Is the reduction in the relative erosion (%) on the offered acres >60 but <=90?	Yes O or No O
5. e. Is the reduction in the relative erosion (%) on the offered acres >90 but <=120?	Yes O or No O
5. f. Is the reduction in the relative erosion (%) on the offered acres >120?	Yes O or No O
Conservation treatment resulting in reduction of concentrated water erosion on offered acres as documented on CPA-52. Points are based on the percent of the offered acres affected by ephemeral and/or classic gullies that will be addressed with the conservation treatment. (Answer only one 6a-3f, yes, if applicable)	
6. a. Percent (%) of applicable acres affected by concentrated flow that are treated >0 but =<10?	Yes O or No O
6. b. Percent (%) of applicable acres affected by concentrated flow that are treated >10 but =<25?	Yes O or No O
6. c. Percent (%) of applicable acres affected by concentrated flow that are treated >25 but =<50?	Yes O or No O
6. d. Percent (%) of applicable acres affected by concentrated flow that are treated >50 but =<75?	Yes O or No O
6. e. Percent (%) of applicable acres affected by concentrated flow that are treated >75?	Yes O or No O
Conservation treatment resulting in multiple benefit of soil erosion reduction and increasing soil quality/soil health by increasing crop diversity and intensity of the rotation. Crops are considered as 1-summer annual grass (0.84), 2-summer annual broadleaf (1.00), 3-winter annual grass (0.50), winter annual broadleaf (0.67), and multi-species cover crop (1.00). The values in parenthese are the diversity-intensity points per crop. The total crop rotation points are based on the sum of the diversity-intensity points for each crop added to the rotation. IF THE CROP ROTATION IS COMPLETELY NO-TILL or STRIP-TILL multiply the sum by 2.0 to get the total crop roation points. (Answer only one 7a-7h, yes, if applicable)	
7. a. Are the total points for the crop rotation >0 but =<0.50?	Yes O or No O
7. b. Are the total pointsf for the crop rotation >0.50 but =<1.00?	Yes O or No O
7. c. Are the total points for the crop rotation >1.00 but =<1.50?	Yes O or No O
7. d. Are the total points for the crop rotation >1.50 but =<2.00?	Yes O or No O
7. e. Are the total points for the crop rotation >2.00 but =<2.50?	Yes O or No O
7. f. Are the total points for the crop rotation >2.50 but =<3.00?	Yes O or No O
7. g. Are the total points for the crop rotation >3.00 but =<3.50?	Yes O or No O
7. h. Are the total points for the crop rotation >3.50?	Yes O or No O
LAND-USE CONVERSION: Conservation treatment associated with converting irrigated lands that have been irrigated two of the past five years to non-irrigated cropland, converted to perennial vegetation and managed for livestock, or converted to perenttial vegetation and managed for wildlife. (Answer only one 8a-8c, yes, if applicable)	
8. a. If the contracted acreage is currently irrigated by non-tributary groundwater will the land be converted to non-irrigated cropland AND the duration of land conversion be at least 3 years?	Yes O or No O
8. b. If the contracted acreage is currently irrigated by non-tributary groundwater will the land be converted to non-irrigated cropland AND the duration of land conversion be 5 years?	Yes O or No O
8. c. If the contracted acreage is currently irrigated by non-tributary groundwater will the land be permanently converted to perennial vegetation managed for livestock or wildlife habitat?	Yes O or No O
Conservation treatment resulting in multiple benefit of soil erosion reduction and wildlife habitat/riparian area improvement. (Answer only one 9a-9b, yes, if applicable)	
9. a. Does the conservation treatment include the installation of practices that improve and enhance upland wildlife habitat as a part of the overall operation of the agricultural enterprise?	Yes O or No O
9. b. Does the conservation treatment include the installation of practices that improve and enhance wildlife habitat and riparian health improvement as a part of the overall operation of the agricultural enterprise, including invasive species control?	Yes O or No O
Facilitation of improved management of an existing no-till/strip till, diverse species cropping system? (Answer only one 10a-10b, yes, if applicable)	

10. a. Does the conservation treatment include the installation of practices that facilitates greater on-farm efficiency, but not limited to practices such as variable rate application of fertilizers and other agrichemicals?	Yes O or No O
10. b. Does the conservation treatment include the installation of practices that provides efficient on-farm operations for the storage, mixing, loading and cleanup of fertilizers and other agrichemicals?	Yes O or No O

Land Use:

Resource Concerns	Practices

Ranking Score

Efficiency:

Local Issues:

State Issues:

National Issues:

Final Ranking Score:

This ranking report is for your information. It does not in any way guarantee funding. When funding becomes available, you will be notified if your application is selected for funding. Some changes to the application may be required before a final contract is awarded.

Notes:

NRCS Representative: **Signature Date:**	**Applicant Signature Not Required on this report for Contract Development unless required by State policy:** **Signature Date:**